

Inventory & Cost

Control:

Simple Daily Habits That Protect Food Cost

Today's Goal:

We will cover the **4 controlables** crucial for shift leader success: food waste, critical counts, deliveries and product rotation



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Four Things We Control Every Day

Keep it simple: track it, count it, receive it correctly, and rotate it.

1.

Track Waste

2.

Critical Counts

3.

**Recieve
Deliveries**

4.

**Rotate
Product**

These four habits give us better information, better accountability, and better control of food cost.



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1. Track Waste Daily in PAR OPS

If we don't record the waste, we cannot see the true cost or fix the cause.

RECORD IT

Enter waste in PAR OPS every day.

Record waste when it happens—do not wait until the end of the week.

Use the correct product and quantity.

Make sure managers and shift leaders know who is responsible.

USE THE INFORMATION

Review what is being wasted and how often.

Look for repeated products or repeated behaviors.

Coach over-prep, incorrect portions, quality mistakes, and preventable loss.

Waste tracking should lead to action—not just another number.



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2. Complete Critical Counts in PAR OPS

Critical counts help us catch inventory problems before the weekly or month-end inventory.

COUNT

Complete the required critical counts every day.

Physically count the product.

Use consistent units and accurate quantities.

COMPARE

Review what PAR OPS says should be there.

Look for unexpected variances.

Do not change a count just to make the number look right.

INVESTIGATE

Check waste, receiving, portions, transfers, and counting accuracy.

Look for patterns.

Correct the process and follow up.



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3. Recieve Truck Deliveries Correctly

Receiving is where inventory accountability begins.

BEFORE YOU ACCEPT IT

Be ready for the delivery and have someone responsible for receiving it.

Verify the products and quantities delivered.

Inspect product condition and identify anything that does not meet expectations.

Address shortages, damage, or incorrect product before the delivery is put away.

BEFORE YOU PUT IT AWAY

Make sure the delivery is received correctly in the system.

Keep invoices and receiving information accurate.

Put refrigerated and frozen product away promptly.

Do not let a rushed delivery create an inventory problem that lasts all week.



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4. *Proper Product Rotation*

Use the older product first and protect the quality of everything we serve.



LEADER CHECK

Date and organize product so the team can easily use the oldest product first.

When new product arrives, rotate it behind existing product—do not simply place it in front.

Check coolers, freezers, dry storage, and prep areas. Good rotation reduces waste and protects quality.



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How the 4 Pieces Work Together

One weak step can create a food-cost problem somewhere else.

WASTE

Shows what we lost.
Helps identify preventable mistakes.

COUNTS

Shows what we actually have.
Helps expose unexplained variance.

RECEIVING

Confirms what came in.
Starts inventory accurately.

ROTATION

Uses product in the right order.
Reduces expiration and unnecessary waste.

Accurate information allows us to coach the right problem instead of guessing.



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Keep it simple. Do it every day.

You don't have to make cash control complicated.

You do have to make it consistent.

TRACK WASTE

Enter it daily in PAR OPS.

COMPLETE CRITICAL COUNTS

Count accurately and investigate variances.

RECEIVE THE TRUCK

Verify what came in before it becomes inventory.

ROTATE PRODUCT

Older product first. New product behind.

***COUNT IT • TRACK IT • PROTECT IT •
FOLLOW UP***